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Page 36, line 30, change/6B" to --12--;

Page 36, line 33, change "6B" to --12--.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claim as follows:

Claim 1, line 10 change "ability" to --capability--.

Please add the following new claims:

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--5. The exhaust gas purifying apparatus as defined in claim 2, wherein the light-off catalyst has an oxygen storage capability of first value and the three-way catalyst has an oxygen storage of a second value which is greater than said first value.

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- 6. The exhaust gas purifying apparatus as defined in claim 5, wherein an amount of oxygen adsorbed on said light-off catalyst is not greater than about 150 cc per one-liter volume of the catalyst when measured by an oxygen pulse method.
- 7. The exhaust gas purifying apparatus as defined in claim 6, wherein an oxygen component stored in said light-off catalyst is not greater than about 25g per one-liter volume of the catalyst.

8. The exhaust gas purifying apparatus as defined in claim 1, wherein the intenval combustion engine is a spark ignition type four-cycle engine that operates on the four-

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Stroke cycle consisting of a suction stroke, compression stroke, combustion/expansion stroke, and exhaust stroke.

9. The exhaust gas purifying apparatus as defined in claim 8, wherein the internal combustion engine is an in-cylinder injection type engine in which fuel is directly injected into a combustion chamber.

10. The exhaust gas purifying apparatus as defined in claim 1, wherein the exhaust gas purifying means are single catalyst.

11. The exhaust gas purifying apparatus as defined in claim 10, wherein the single catalyst of the exhaust gas purifying means function as a three way catalyst.

12. The exhaust gas purifying apparatus as defined in claim 10, wherein the single catalyst of the light-off catalyst functions as a three way catalyst.

13. The exhaust gas purifying apparatus as defined in claim 12, wherein the exhaust gas purifying means functions also as an NOx catalyst.

14. The exhaust gas purifying apparatus as defined in claim 13, wherein the light of catalyst functions also as an SOx catalyst.--

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are pending.